

Jean Buffalo-Reyes

Bayfield, Wisconsin

Jean Buffalo-Reyes represents the Great Lakes Region and brings ample expertise and experience to the table in the field of outreach for the Intertribal Agriculture Council, (IAC). Jean is an enrolled member of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin. In 1999, she was elected by the membership to the position of Tribal Chairperson and held the office until July 2001, during which time she became intimately involved in agricultural projects for the Region.

In May of 2001, Jean was the first recipient to receive the Wisconsin Environmental Leadership Award from the USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), for initiating many important activities that will have long-term benefits to the natural environment. She is currently President of the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council, which serves the eleven tribes in the State of Wisconsin. In July 2004, she was elected to an at-large seat with the Red Cliff Tribal Council for a two-year term.

Before taking the position of Tribal Chairperson, she began her accomplishments with an appointment as an Associate Judge for four years and was then re-appointed as Chief Judge for another four years before taking office as Chair. She also held an Executive seat with the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association and the National Indian Court Judges Association. Her involvement and commitment to education has been longstanding. She is currently the School Board President for the School District of Bayfield and has held a seat with the District for the past eleven years serving her tribal community. In 2003, she was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Wisconsin Women's Council.

Throughout her career, she has been actively involved in numerous projects and committees to improve and advocate for land conservation and development on the reservation for the betterment of Indian People.